

The True Northerner

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Getting the Dollar From Under the Stump

How Up to Date Farmers Are Easily and Economically Realizing on Land Hitherto Impossible of Cultivation.

ABOUT 400,000,000 acres of land included in farms throughout the United States are unimproved. Figuring that each acre could be made to produce at least \$25 worth of produce per year, there is approximately \$10,000,000,000 production being lost annually. Quite a tidy figure. And when we take into consideration that in many cases it requires only the removal of sundry stumps and boulders to make this land profitable, it certainly looks as though something might be done to save the waste. "Stumping with dynamite" is both an economical, quick and labor saving method as well as one that is growing in popularity daily.

The method involved in the blasting of a stump is to confine a quantity of explosive in such a manner that when exploded the expanding gases will lift

the stump out of the ground. To secure best results the charge should be placed in the soil well under the base of the stump at the point where the resistance offered to the force of the explosion will be equal on all sides.

Where the soil is of a heavy clay or plastic nature a slow acting powder is preferable, such as farm powder or stumping powder. Where the earth is sandy or loose and is apt to permit the easy escape of gases a fast explosive, such as 40 to 60 per cent dynamite should be used. The condition of the soil with respect to moisture also has a great influence upon the amount of work that a certain quantity of powder will do. After heavy rains when the soil is saturated to the base of the stump and the subsoil is just damp is a most favorable condition.

No set rules as to the amount of powder necessary to blast a certain

Old Time Temperance.
Germany would seem to have given the lead in the matter of temperance societies. On Jan. 18, 1517, a man named Sigismund de Dietrichstein formed the Order of St. Christopher, and in 1600 the landgrave of Hesse formed the Order of Temperance, both societies aiming at the promotion of moderation. What moderation meant in bygone Germany may be gathered from the fact that members of the first order pledged themselves to abstain from toast drinking, while those of the second were pledged "not to drink more than seven glasses of liquor at a time and that not oftener than twice a day."

kind or size of stump can be given, since different conditions govern all cases. Two stumps of the same size, kind and age of cut, when one is grown on well drained soil where the roots must penetrate a great depth for water and the other is grown on soil where there is always water near the surface, will demand different treatment for extraction. The older stumps, especially if from timber free from resin, require less powder. The powder necessary for set conditions can, however, be readily determined with a little experimenting.

Few tools and supplies are required. A one and one-half inch wood auger with a shank about four and one-half feet long, a medium sized crowbar, a round pointed shovel and a wooden tamping stick, together with the powder, fuse and caps, will serve to fill the bill.

The Music of Thunder.

The bass of thunder is considerably lower than the lowest sound produced in an orchestra—below the zero of music, we call it, at which all positive apprehension of musical sound ceases and our senses are merely conscious of a roar. In observing the music of thunder our attention, however, may be most profitably directed to the expression rather than to the notes. The musical diminuendo is more perfectly represented by thunder than by any other form of sound in nature. After the first clap is over the ear will pursue with pleasure the rolling away and gradual fainting of the peal until at an immeasurable distance it sinks into silence.

Explosives in Road Building

One of the newer methods of road building that is fast winning the endorsement of the better versed contractor is that of employing dynamite for reducing the heavy work.

Grading through hard ground or rock, for instance, is tedious and requires time and labor. The use of dynamite for blasting such material is a welcome relief. Both rock and hard clay may be loosened in the cut by well placed charges of explosives if holes are drilled into the ground a little way up the bank and loaded. Careful spacing and loading for electrically fired blasts will result in bringing down both classes of materials in the best possible manner.



In loosening shale and rock to facilitate hand or steam shovel work dynamite is also very effective, while stumps may be blasted from the roadside just as though they were being removed from a field to be cleared and cultivated. Boulders also are easily shattered by suitable loading and when of hard rock may be crushed into surfacing stone. The side ditches as well as the long outfall ditches can also be blasted in keeping with the nature of the ground. In fact, there are no limits practically to the many uses and advantages of dynamite for road building when careful and thoughtful attention is given to the work.

Incidentally the planting of shade trees for roadside improvement and attractiveness is greatly facilitated by the judicious use of a little dynamite. It is a recognized fact that trees planted in blasted holes grow much more rapidly and progress more favorably than those planted in the average spade dug ground.

Like Our Own Moon.

Observations made at the Lowell Observatory of the varying brightness of two satellites of Saturn, viz., Mimas and Enceladus, indicate that these bodies rotate on their axes in periods identical with those of their revolution around the primary, i. e., they behave like our own moon, and probably like satellites generally.

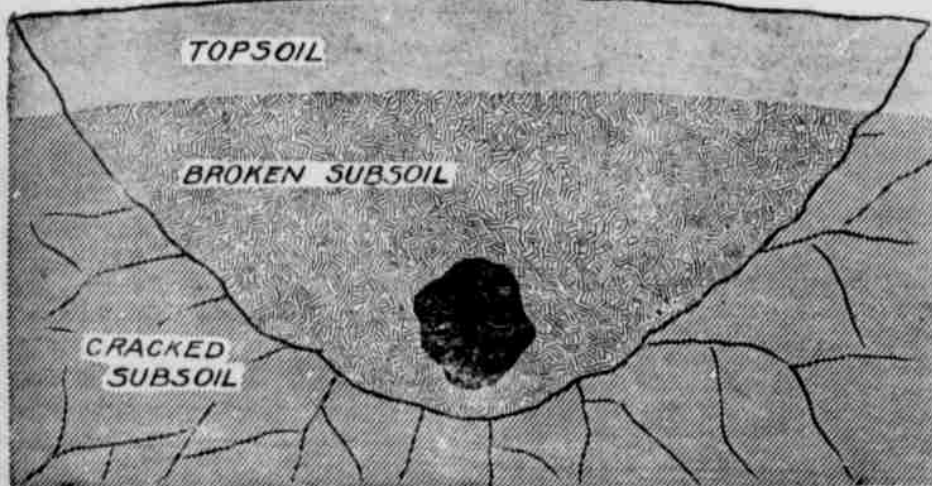
Blasting Ground For Tree Planting

Much has been written on how to plant a tree or trees, but if the experiences of scores of famous orchardists have any weight on the topic, then the practice of using dynamite preliminary to planting young trees has fully proved its merits.

The writer has personally seen specific examples of the value and excellence of tree planting with dynamite on a private orchard in Delaware, the

tree planting time, unless it is desirable to add some manure or fertilizer to be diffused through the soil. This is an excellent practice, especially in poor soil. If the earth is sour, sticky clay a few pounds of lime scattered in the hole will materially assist in flocculating the clay and keeping it permanently granulated and sweet.

Immediately after the blast the soft blasted ground should be dug out down to the location of the charge, where a hole will usually be found about the size of a bushel basket. This

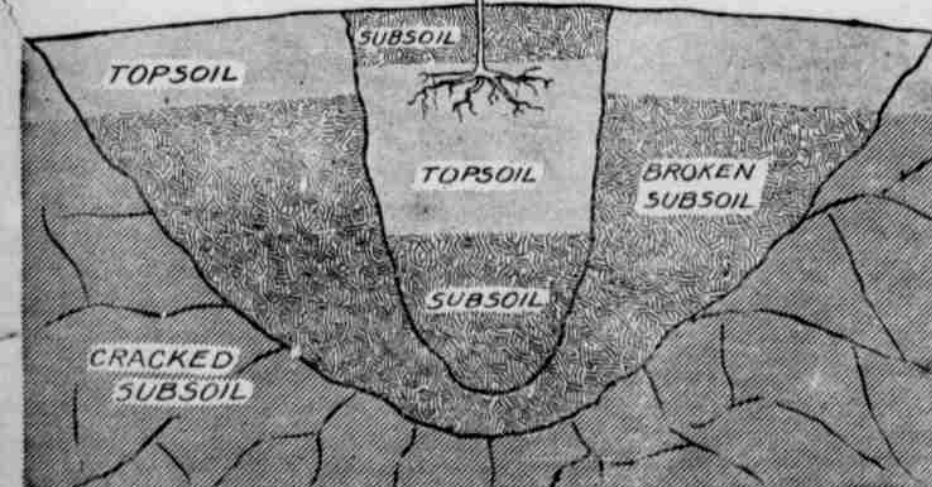


THE BLAST THOROUGHLY CRACKS THE SOIL, BUT USUALLY LEAVES A CAVITY OR POTHOLE AT THE BOTTOM—THIS MUST BE FILLED.

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Shoes

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SHOES

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2-Piece Garments

Men's \$1.00 to \$2.50
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Men's 50c to \$1.00
Ladies' 25c to \$1.00
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We carry the famous

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makes in 15 different styles. These are the very best fitting qualities and are well boned and heavy. These good qualities constitute wear

PRICE -

50c. to \$2.00

Deepening the Farm For Bigger Crops

The Third Dimension of the Farm an Important Factor to Greater Crops and Bigger Dividends.

WISE farmers are beginning to realize that a farm goes farther than length and breadth. Depth is a vital factor, and incidentally this third dimension has a clearly identified influence upon the producing value of the earth's surface.

Thus "vertical farming," a newer method of agriculture, is rapidly developing. Merely to scrape the bristles from a hog's hide is not enough. Deeper cutting is essential in order to reach the bacon. And experience has shown that to simply plow or turn the top soil is very often only the scratching of the surface when it comes to bumper crops.

Often the productivity of a farm is limited by the tight clay or hard pan underlying the top soil. Costly implements for tilling this upper soil and

taking care of increased horizontal or surface acreage are all right in their way, but to go